

**In the claims:**

**Claim 1 (currently amended)** In the production of refractory articles, the improvement comprises ~~using~~ incorporating a polycondensation product produced by reacting a bisphenol residue from the production of bisphenols with an aldehyde in an acidic medium and ~~adding~~ at least one phenolic compound into the refractory material and forming the refractory material thereto.

**Claim 2 (previously presented)** In the production of Claim 1, the bisphenol residue is from bisphenol A production.

**Claim 3 (previously presented)** In the production of Claim 1, the aldehyde is formaldehyde.

**Claims 4 and 5 (cancelled).**

**Cancel Claims 6 to 8.**

**Claim 9 (previously presented)** In the production of Claim 1, the phenolic compound is phenol.

**Claim 10 (previously presented)** In the production of Claim 1, the polycondensation product is dissolved in a solvent.

**Claim 11 (previously presented)** In the production of Claim 10, the solvent is high boiling.

**Claim 12 (previously presented)** In the production of Claim 10, the solvent is selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, polyglycols and phthalates.